



United States Department of the Interior
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Hagerman National Fish Hatchery
3059D National Fish Hatchery Road
Hagerman, ID 83332



MEMORANDUM

August 6, 2004

TO: ARD-Fisheries Attn: Rich Johnson, Field Supervisor

FROM: Project Leader, Hagerman NFH

SUBJECT: July Activity Report

PRODUCTION

Steelhead Brood Year 2004

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
105	Pahsimeroi	195,992	1,420	138	2.695
106	Sawtooth	900,625	4,020	224	2.293
107	Clearwater B	206,191	987	209	2.350

Fish health in all lots and stocks of BY2004 SST remained excellent for the month. Necropsies were not required. Fish transfers from the hatchery buildings to the outside raceways began July 27, 2004 and will continue well into August. In conjunction with transferring outside, fish were switched from semi-moist to dry production diets. Feeding response and conversion remain excellent. Plans for August include feeding a double vitamin pack with the 1.5 mm and 2.5 mm feed rations.

Rainbow Trout (Dworshak Reservoir Mitigation)

Lot Number	Stock	Number	Total Fish Weight	Size (#/lb)	Length (inches)
104	Hayspur Triploid Rainbows	53,027	7,575	7.0	7.1

Rainbow trout remain in 6 trout raceways and will grow out there until distribution in early October. Stocking sights for this lot of fish are yet to be determined; HNFH will coordinate with Idaho Department of Fish and Game to determine suitable waters for these fish releases based on NZMS Risk Assessment. Fish health continues to be great with low mortalities being observed.

OPERATIONS

On July 7 Bryan Kenworthy, Hatchery Project Leader, attended the Idaho State Legislature Interim Natural Resources Committee (Committee) in Boise, Idaho. The Committee convened the meeting to discuss issues relevant to recent motions filed in the Snake River Basin Adjudication (SRBA) Court that call for the Swan Falls Settlement to be included as an element in all water rights in the SRBA. Based on the testimony presented at the meeting by participants of the 1984 Swan Falls Settlement, the Committee's consensus was that it does not apply. However, the Court has yet to rule on the motions. Department of Justice Attorney, Peter Monson, presented a brief to the SRBA Court, describing issues for the Service and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Merlin Ahrens, Service Contractor, conducted the Hatchery's Facility Condition Assessment the week of July 12. Participants included Chris Starr, Lower Snake River Compensation Plan; and Doug Dehart, Fisheries; Randy Schmeller, Engineering, and Hatchery staff.

Pete Weir, Region 1 Engineering, visited the Hatchery August 12 to compile and finalize data required for the station's Seismic Review. This review will become part of the Hatchery's condition assessment documentation.

Anna Ray provided information for a Reimbursable Payroll Audit on PP2004-25, results pending.

Engineering awarded a contract to a vendor to develop a cost estimate for demolition of the old Hatchery 1 building. Hatchery staff responded to a number of request from the vendor for information on the building. The project is complicated by the presence of asbestos containing transite material in the roof and ceiling of the building and the need to protect the water chiller and its associated utilities during demolition.

COORDINATION

Kurt Schilling represented the Hatchery during the briefing for the Regional Director regarding the Risk Assessment for the New Zealand Mud Snail. Kurt discussed the Hatchery's history with the prevalence of the snail and aspects of the HACCP Plan in place to control its spread.

Darrin Taggart, Computer Specialist, Boise Ecological Services, visited the Hatchery to service and correct a number of computer issues staff were experiencing.

Eileen Hileman, Environmental Protection Agency, and Rob Sharpnack, Idaho Division of Environmental Quality, conducted a non water sampling audit of the Hatchery's discharge permit operations.

Tribal members attending the aquaculture training class being hosted by the University at the University of Idaho, Fish Culture Experiment Station, job shadowed Hatchery staff for a week, 3 hours a day.

Local Water District 36A collected the most current water reading data from Hatchery's 2004 weekly water reading books. Information from these water readings will help to document diminished spring flows in this water district.

Hatchery staff provided information for the "Greater Sage Grouse Information Request" and the "USFWS Chronic Wasting Disease Contingency Planning Refuge/Hatchery Risk and Needs Assessment".

PERSONNEL/ TRAINING/ SAFETY

Nate Wiese, Fishery Biologist, entered on duty July 12. Nate is a recent graduate of the University of Arkansas – Pine Bluff. He completed his Masters Thesis on Market Characteristics of Farm-raised Channel Catfish in May of 2004.

Mark Olson, Brian Clifford, Eric Willett, and James Brandon attended a computer course regarding use of Micro-Soft Excel in Twin Falls, Idaho.

College of Southern Idaho, Fisheries Tech, Student Intern, Kenyon Roark, completed his appointment on July 12.

OUTREACH

Hatchery staff enlisted the help of Wayne Patton, Oster Lake Fire Burned Area Emergency Restoration Plan Implementation Coordinator, to respond to an inquiry by the Twin Falls Times News regarding progress of the burn restoration. The resulting article explained the successes and failures experienced in the effort, noting that wildland restoration in the arid west is a difficult process.

Mark Olson, Fisheries Biologist, presented information on the Service and Lower Snake River Compensation Plan to a tribal aquaculture training class being hosted by the University of Idaho, Fish Culture Experiment Station. Kurt Schilling and Mark Olson attended the award ceremony and picnic celebrating the student's completion of the program.

Hatchery staff conducted 5 scheduled tours for 95 people this month. Tours groups included the Salvation Army, Cub Scouts Pack 3, Immanuel School of Twin Falls, Deer Flat NWR YCC 2004 tour with Todd Fenzl, and a Day Camp Tour.

There were 621 registered visitors in July.

MAINTENANCE

Vehicles and Equipment

- Con Paulos Chevrolet completed repairs to the Suburban
- Purchased wet/dry vacuum from Grainger/GSA
- Purchased ice maker from Grainger/GSA
- New brushes were welded on pond scrubber
- John Deere 495 lawnmower rear main oil seal replaced, hydraulic oil changed, and PTO switch replaced

Buildings and Ground

- Safety Kleen removed old unused barrels of asphalt sealer.
- Overhead Door installed safety devices to all hatchery garage doors.
- 4 Seasons Tree Service removed large maple tree from Quarters #4 and several stumps from hatchery grounds.
- Argus Electric completed safety electrical update to all four Quarters.
- Replaced sign posts in front of administration building.
- Eye wash station installed in egg disinfection room, new hatchery building.
- Welded handles on manhole covers of quarters fire protection system.
- Welded cap on floor drain of pesticide mixing area, (old) Hatchery 1.